## PLATEAU MINING CORPORATION

Willow Creek Mine 847 NW Hwy 191 Helper, Utah 84526 (435) 472-0475 Fax: (435) 472-4780

An affiliate of



June 11, 2001

Mr. Daron R. Haddock Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 P.O. Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Re:

Response to Deficiencies, Silo Demolition, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine,

AMOIB-1

Dear Mr. Haddock:

Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) is submitting the aforementioned. In addition to the enclosed C1 and C2 Forms, PMC is providing additional clarification to the outstanding deficiencies below.

**R645-301-114**, The applicant needs to show it has right of entry for the area proposed to be disturbed. The application to the amend the existing BLM Right of Way U-52409 has been sent to the BLM and will be reviewed by Mr. Mark Mackiewicz as soon as he completes the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Questar, Williams, and Kern River Pipeline Project. The demands of this EIS has not afforded Mr. Mackiewicz the time to review PMC's request. Therefore, in order to keep the project on track and procure seed, transplants, and mulching supplies, PMC is requesting approval of this amendment with a condition precluding right of entry until authorized by the BLM.

**R645-301-230,** The applicant needs to say how much soil will be salvaged and how it will be stored. PMC has revised page 200-21, to commit to delineating the area to be affected in the field prior to any disturbance and removing from the affected area the top one-foot of the soil material, stockpiling, signing, and protecting the soil resources during the razing of the silo operations.

R645-301-240, The current mining and reclamation plan contains a commitment to investigate various methods of reclaiming soils derived from Mancos Shale parent material. Assuming this has happened, the applicant needs to incorporated results of this testing in the mining and reclamation plan. The Permittee has not performed any investigation of various methods for reclaiming soils derived from Mancos Shale parent material. This statement is being removed from the plan as shown on the enclosed page 200-27. However, PMC does believe that its proposed soil preparation, gouging and mulching methodology will provide a method by which reclaiming soils from the Mancos can be evaluated.

PMC does not intend to use any fertilizer during the reclamation of this area, or any other area associated with the Star Point Mine.

44.5 m 200 h

DIVISIÓN OF DIE. GAS AND M**INING**  Mr. Daron R. Haddock June 11, 2001 Page 2

R645-301-353, The seed mixture, rates and timing must be changed to encourage vegetative cover that is comprised of species native to the area, have the same season characteristics of growth and be capable of plant succession. The enclosed revised seed mix has been generated with Ms. Susan Whites's invaluable recommendations. As the Division knows, often times a seed mix will need to be altered due to seed availability; therefore, a timely decision on the amendment would facilitate the Permittee's ability to commence with the seed procurement process.

Regarding the issue of warm season species, it was observed by Ms. White and Mr. Paul Baker during a site visit that there did not appear to be any warm season species in the area and that warm season seeding was not necessary. Furthermore, it has always been the Permittee's belief that seeding should occur as soon after the seed bed is prepared and prior to any crusting of the soil surface. The concept of warm season seeding is worthy of consideration, but the implementation is also worthy of consideration.

**R645-301-358**, A commitment must be made to survey the silo prior to demolition for animal species of concern. PMC has a commitment in its mining and reclamation plan on page 300-36, which is difficult to find in the many pages of the permit, that states "PMC will, however, continue to conduct site specific monitoring during demolition and reclamation activities". Presently, the razing of the silo is not anticipated until the middle to latter part of August.

If this commitment does not adequately address the deficiency, then the Permittee can provide further verbiage as necessary.

PMC believes that it has adequately addressed the deficiencies identified by the Division, with the exception of the right of entry, whereby approval of the silo demolition amendment can be approved with a condition that access to area covered within the amendment to right of way U-52409 is precluded until BLM approval is granted.

If the Division has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (435) 472-4741.

Sincerely,

Johnny Pappas

Sr. Environmental Engineer

**Enclosures** 

File: Star Point Mine - Silo Demolition

Chrono: JP010602.ltr

APPLICA	ATION FOR	<b>PERMIT</b>	PRA	CESSING
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APPLICATION FOR PERMIT PROCESSING							
Permit Change ⊠	New Permit □	Renewal □	Transfer □	Exploration □	Bond Release □	Permit Number: C/007/006	
Title of Proposal: Silo Demolition - Reclamation distrubed area boundary expansion. Response to April 27, 2001 Technical Analysis.						Mine: STAR POINT MINES	
_						Permittee: PLATEAU MINING CORP.	

Description, include reason for application and timing required to implement:

Response to Technical Analysis - Deficiencies

Instructions: If you answer yes to any of the first 8 questions (gray), submit the application to the Salt Lake Office. Otherwise, you may submit it to your reclamation specialist. ⊠ Yes □ No I. Change in the size of the Permit Area? acres Disturbed Area? 0.98 acres a increase a decrease. □ Yes ⊠ No 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO # □ Yes 🛭 No 3. Does application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area? □ Yes ⊠ No 4. Does application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved? □ Yes ⊠ No 5. Does application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond? 6. Does the application require or include public notice/publication? □ Yes ⊠ No ⊠ Yes O No 7 Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information? □ Yes 🗷 No 8 Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling? □ Yes ⊠ No 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # □ Yes ⊠ No 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies? Explain: □ No 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use? BLM R-0-W Amendment □ Yes ⊠ No 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2?) □ Yes ☑ No 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information? Yes □ No 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area? □ No 15. Does application require or include soil removal, storage or placement? □ No 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities? □ No 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities? ⊠ No □ Yes 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures? □ No 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps, or calculations? □ Yes ⊠ No 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring? □ Yes ⊠ No 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided for? □ Yes ⊠ No 22. Does application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream? □ No 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities? BLM R-O-W U52409

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments,

41 SOUTH 500 EAST **PRICE, UT 84501** COMM. EXP. 2-24-2005 Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

ASSIGNED TRACKING NUMBER

## Application for Permit Processing Detailed Schedule of Changes to the MRP

Title of Application:

Silo Demolition - Reclamation disturbed area boundary expansion - Response to April 27, 2001 Technical Analysis.

Permit Number: C/007/006

Mine: STAR POINT

Permittee: PLATEAU MINING CORP.

Provide a detailed listing of all changes to the mining and reclamation plan which will be required as a result of this proposed permit application. Individually list all maps and drawings which are to be added, replaced, or removed from the plan. Include changes of the table of contents, section of the plan, pages, or other information as needed to specifically locate, identify and revise the existing mining and reclamation plan. Include page, section and drawing numbers as part of the description.

			DESCRIPTION OF MAP, TEXT, OR MATERIALS TO BE CHANGED
□ ADD	⊠ REPLACE	□ REMOVE	Page 200-21
□ ADD	⊠ REPLACE	□ REMOVE	Page 200-22
□ ADD	■ REPLACE	□ REMOVE	Page 200-27
□ ADD	⊠ REPLACE	□ REMOVE	Page 300-58
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Any other specific or special instructions required for insertion of this proposal into the Mining and Reclamation Plan?